

The ORIGIN of Sin

by C.D. Cole

This is one of the most difficult questions in theology. Since God made everything good in the original creation, how did sin get started? How was a good creation thrown into rebellion against its Creator? By whom and how was sin originated? There is much we cannot know about the question. But there are some necessary inferences.

1. Sin is not eternal; it had a beginning. The Gnostics believed in two eternal principles: good and evil.
2. Sin was not created by God. God created everything good; He is not the Author of sin. Moral beings were without sin when created. Satan was created a sinless and perfect being "You were perfect in your ways from the day that you were created, until iniquity was found in you" (Ezekiel 28:15). God made man upright. "Lo, this only have I found, that God has made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions" (Ecclesiastes 7:29).
3. Sin was not the necessary result of finiteness. Some claim that because God made man a finite being sin was inevitable. But if this be true, men will always be sinners for none of us will ever become infinite. Infinity belongs only to God.
4. Sin had its origin in a principle of negation, which means that it is not the result of any positive force. Moral beings were created good, but not immutably and independently good.

This would have made them equal with God; it would have involved the absurdity of God creating another God. God alone is immutable and independent. There cannot be more than one God, self-existent and self-sufficient, sovereign and supreme.

Moral beings, angels and man, were dependent upon God in remaining good. A sustaining power must continually go out from God if moral creatures continue as created. "Which holds our soul in life, and suffers not our feet to be moved" (Psalm 66:9); "For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring" (Acts 17:28); "For by him were all things created, that are in Heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist" (Colossians 1:16,17); "Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high:" (Hebrews 1:3). Now this sustaining power is of grace and not of debt. It is not a matter of justice. God could exercise this grace or not as it pleased Him. He could have upheld and confirmed in holiness all moral beings. He could have prevented sin from ever getting started among the angels, just as He graciously prevented it from spreading, confirming in holiness those referred to as the elect angels: "I charge you before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that you observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality" (1 Timothy 5:21). He could have kept the sinless Adam from sinning. It will not do to say that because God made Adam a free moral agent, He could not prevent his sinning without violating the freedom of his will.

Today is April 07, 2024

Sovereign Grace

Missionary Baptist Church

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"Our Prayer List"

"Pray without ceasing." 1 Thess. 5:17

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Jerry Hughes, Shirley King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family, Baby Titus Massey, Shane and Brook Sims, Ricky Bennett, Nick, Madison, and Baby Emory Patty, and Russell York, Brother Medic, Sister Mhalyn Lavina and children, Brother Jerry Dodson, Brother Gary and Sister White, Brother David and Sister Jevonna O'Neal, Sister Rebecca Sidders.

"Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works"

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.

"A Message from Pastor Johnson"

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof..." 1st Peter 5:2

"We cannot take God for granted."

1 Timothy 4:14 - 16 "Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. (15) Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

(16) Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."

The easiest thing for a believer to do is to take God for granted. I was taught as a young minister that the only way to learn of God is to continually study, then when you learn act upon what you learn, and if you do, you will be a good believer. Lot of the time we learn but fail to act and if we do, we are taking God for granted. God said, "*Neglect not the gift that is in thee*", now most will rightly argue that God is talking about Ministers here. However, it is not limited to Ministers because all believers have gifts of God given to us. For example, salvation is a gift from God, "*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*" Rom. 6:23 Can a Christian neglect their salvation, absolutely we can if we are not being followers of Jesus Christ. Solomon wrote in Ecc. 5:19 "*Every man also to whom God hath given riches and wealth, and hath given him power to eat thereof, and to take his portion, and to rejoice in his labour; this is the gift of God.*" Our worldly goods are a gift from God, and they also can be abused in an ill manor. If we look at our life properly, **we will understand that everything is a gift from God.** And if it is a gift from God then it is **by God's grace** because He gave it to us. We all, every single believer takes God's gifts for granted in one way or another and some more than others, even if we know it or not. Let's look at our gift of salvation because it is the most abused gift of all. God gave us our salvation, it was not earned, it was not bought, it did not just fall out of the sky, God gave it to us. But none of us walk absolute according to God's word. Sometimes we subconsciously may believe that we are walking rightly but in reality, we are wrong. Let's face it, we are all wrong about some things because none of us are perfectly aligned with the scriptures. We are only perfect in Jesus Christ because He was perfect. Some may say that if we do not understand then we are not guilty, others will say the word "neglect" means - to be careless of - that is true, but it also means - not regard something -. Just because we do not understand something may be because it goes against the belief we were raised with, or maybe it's not within our line of thinking.

Pastor Johnson, Continued

Just because I believe something to be right doesn't mean I am right, and it is the same with you. The more we learn in God's word and the more we believe what God says the more right we will be. God said, "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" 2 Timothy 2:15 The bottom-line for a believer is to study, not to study a little but a lot. We need to study with much prayer because the Holy Spirit is our teacher. "*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*" John 14:26 Our fervent study will show us much, but if we are going to "*rightly dividing the word of truth*". It is the Holy Spirit that will teach it to us, this is why we must listen to the scriptures and not give too much savvy to the teacher, who are just men. If it is in the scriptures then it is right, and right over even our thoughts or belief. We cannot simply overlook something scriptural as though it isn't there, if God said it then it's there and we need to learn to rightly divide the word of truth. **It is our responsibility to learn God's word and rightly divide the Truth.** God has given to every believer gifts, those gifts are given to rightly serve Him without error. God said, "*Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them;*" If we fail, then we are neglecting God's gifts.

Church Information and Happenings.

1. **Please Remember Our Bible Conference** this year is scheduled for September 13 & 14 Friday night and Saturday. Please decide on whom you want to invite this year because we need to send invitations around June 01.

